

## **Fallston Community Council Meeting Notes May 24, 2011**

Attendees: Dave Williams, George Twigg, Jim Riley, Don McCreesh, Tony Dec, Larry Kreis, Andy Amasia, Morita Bruce

Guests (and organization represented): Joe Woods (County Council District B), Corporal Donald Hopps (HC Sheriffs Office), Bryna Zumer (The Aegis), Mr and Mrs Jerry Brown, Madeline Garrison, Catherine Brown

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Dave Williams. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved. The next FCC meeting is July 26, 2011.

### **Sheriff's Office**

Cpl Hopps provided Community Policing statistics for April and May in Sector 70 (Fallston/Baldwin/Upper Cross Rd/Bel Air North). Calls for service were very slightly up compared to the same time last year, and included a number of auto thefts in March and more burglaries in April. Increases are probably due to the economy. He reminded everyone to keep car doors and home doors locked even when people are at home, and to keep up with landscaping and keep bushes near the house trimmed.

Two juveniles were arrested for the robbery in the Target parking lot. Those wishing to receive automatic "Constant Contact" emails for their area can sign up at [www.harfordsheriff.org](http://www.harfordsheriff.org) under Crime Reports.

### **Guest Speaker**

Mr. Jeff Stratmeyer, Chief Engineer, Harford County Department of Public Works talked about road and bridge project for 2011 - 2012. Funding from Maryland for capital projects (construction and maintenance) are down from \$12million to \$7-8million. Bridges longer than 20' are federally funded.

He discussed and /or showed illustrations of the following projects:

Watervale bridge: Will be 28' wide and can carry all legal vehicles. Met with residents to decide the kind of construction and abutments. Design in 2011, construction starts 2012, completion 2014.

Carrs Mill bridge/culvert: Construction starts 2013. There will be a temporary bridge during construction so this can start before Watervale bridge is completed.

Hess Road bridge and Jerusalem Mill covered bridge: (Baltimore County has the lead on these)

Oakmont signal and new access road to Brandywine development: Road design (Port Lane extension) is underway but there is no money for property acquisition.

Mr. Stratmeyer discussed the microsurfacing technique for road resurfacing that is used to extend the lifespan of older roads, described "soil nails" used along stream banks to stabilize them, how rusting culverts are lined with shot-crete, and noted that flatter ramp edges are being installed on sidewalks to meet new ADA compliance standards.

Anyone noticing erosion or other problems were asked to call the Highway Department at 410-638-3280. Several members provided immediate information to Mr. Stratmeyer.

### **Old Business**

Morita Bruce noted that two public Master Plan open houses were held by Department of Planning and Zoning. Attendance was low as was public input via the blog. The rewrite of the Master Plan is underway and a draft will be released in early fall.

## **New Business & Community Updates**

In response to a constituent email received by Councilman Woods regarding traffic safety concerns at the intersection of Route 152 and Friendship Road, the response by MD State Highway Administration was that the traffic signal analysis says conditions do not warrant installation of a signal.

The status of local Parks and Recreation projects was read.

Andy Amasia has been working with Brian Hersh and other neighbors affected by the Jones Auto lighting problem. The neighbors are now planning a lawsuit.

Councilman Woods is working to address traffic concerns at various intersections on Route 152 such as at Route 1 and at Carrs Mill. However, there is no money to work on the problems.

Guest Jerry Brown, who lives on Ryan Road, said that on the afternoon of May 12, his wife was viciously attacked by a pit bull who then went on to attack another lady and her dog. He said the Sheriff's department responded immediately but that Animal Control did not respond and 4 days later told Mrs. Brown that they believed "it was not a dog bite". He said eleven days passed before the dog's owner was contacted by Animal Control, that the dog was unlicensed, the owner's name was not released, and the rabies status of the dog was unknown. He was also concerned for the welfare of kids in the area. He asked FCC's help in getting County Executive Craig involved. Mr. Brown wants a formal apology from the County and a copy of the reports that are required.

In the absence of the community relations representative, Dave Williams and Andy Amasia promised Mr. Brown they would contact Mr. Craig regarding this request.

Before he had to leave, Councilman Woods provided copies of draft legislation prepared by lawyer Jay Young for a client which would allow existing gas stations to expand in rural areas dependent on well water. There was brief discussion, with Larry Kreis and Don McCreesh supporting the legislation as a way to convince owners to replace old tanks and Morita Bruce opposing it on the grounds that it would not protect groundwater and private wells.

Members agreed to meet the third week in July to discuss the Fallston Community portion of the Master Plan. Dave Williams will notify members of the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Submitted by Morita Bruce and Dave Williams